



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Maryland*

*Rod J. Rosenstein
United States Attorney*

*Vickie E. LeDuc
Public Information Officer*

*36 South Charles Street
Fourth Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2692*

*410-209-4800
TTY/TDD: 410-962-4462
410-209-4885
FAX 410-962-3091
Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov*

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**FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION CONTACT
VICKIE E. LEDUC
410-209-4885**

**BANK VAULT TELLER PLEADS GUILTY
TO EMBEZZLING BANK VAULT MONEY**

GREENBELT, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announces that Theresa Williamson, age 40, of Odenton, Maryland pleaded guilty today to embezzlement by a bank employee.

According to the agreed statement of facts presented to the court, Williamson was employed as a teller manager beginning in 2000 for the Laurel branch of Wachovia Bank. From September 2002 to September 2004, Williamson transferred about \$35,920 from the bank vault to her personal checking account. The transactions generally involved between \$1,000 and \$2,000 each. Williamson would create a "miscellaneous cash out ticket" for the amount she had taken in order to balance the bank's records relating to the amount of cash physically kept in the vault. Because the bank rarely audited the vault, Williamson's embezzlement was not discovered until an audit was conducted on September 1, 2004 while Williamson was on vacation. After initially denying her conduct, Williamson provided a written confession to the bank and was terminated. She later repaid the embezzled funds to the bank.

Williamson faces a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison followed by five years of supervised release. U.S. District Court Judge Peter J. Messitte has scheduled sentencing for January 12, 2006 at 9:30 a.m.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the Federal Bureau of Investigation for their work and commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Stuart A. Berman, who is prosecuting the case.